

Appl. No. 10/722,988

Proposed Claim Amendments

1-5. Cancelled.

6. (Currently amended) A method of issuing a mail address to a user who makes e-mail communication with a mail-receiver through a server, comprising:

(a) on receipt of a request from said user to issue an interim mail address, issuing an interim mail address to said user from said server;

(b) recording a mail address of said user, a mail address of said mail-receiver, said interim mail address, and a maximum number by which said user is allowed to receive e-mails addressed to said interim mail address, into a mail-address recording table in a set;

(c) when an e-mail addressed to said interim mail address is received at said server, if the number of receiving e-mails addressed to said interim mail address is smaller than said maximum number, judging said interim mail address of the received e-mail valid; and

(d) when a mail address of a transmitter of the received e-mail is identical with a mail address of said mail-receiver recorded in said mail-address recording table and further when said interim mail address is judged valid, reading a mail address of said user out of said mail-address recording table, and converting said interim mail address to said mail address of said user,

wherein said request is made when said server receives an e-mail from said user which e-mail is addressed to a mail-receiver not recorded in a user's telephone directory stored in said server, and further comprising converting a mail address of a transmitter in said e-mail received from said user, into said interim mail address.

7. (Original) The method as set forth in claim 6, further comprising the step of, (e) when a mail address of a transmitter of the received e-mail is not identical with a mail address of said mail-receiver recorded in said mail-address recording table, or when said interim mail address is judged invalid, rejecting transmission of the received e-mail to said user.

8. (Original) The method as set forth in claim 6, wherein said request is made when said server receives an e-mail from said user, and further comprising converting a mail address of a transmitter in said e-mail received from said user, into said interim mail address.

9. (Cancelled)

Appl. No. 10/722,988

Proposed Claim Amendments

10. (Original) The method as set forth in claim 6, further comprising judging said interim mail address invalid when said user instructs invalidation of said interim mail address, even if said interim mail address is judged valid in said step (c).
11. (Previously presented) The method as set forth in claim 6, wherein said maximum number is varied by said user.
12. (Currently amended) A method of issuing a mail address to a user who makes e-mail communication with a mail-receiver through a server, comprising:
- (a) on receipt of a request from said user to issue an interim mail address, issuing an interim mail address to said user from said server;
 - (b) recording a mail address of said user, a mail address of said mail-receiver, said interim mail address, and an expiration date by which said user can transmit an e-mail having said interim mail address, into a mail-address recording table in a set;
 - (c) when an e-mail addressed to said interim mail address is received at said server, if it is within said expiration date, judging said interim mail address of the received e-mail valid; and
 - (d) when a mail address of a transmitter of the received e-mail is identical with a mail address of said mail-receiver recorded in said mail-address recording table and further when said interim mail address is judged valid, reading a mail address of said user out of said mail-address recording table, and converting said interim mail address to said mail address of said user,
wherein said request is made when said server receives an e-mail from said user which e-mail is addressed to a mail-receiver not recorded in a user's telephone directory stored in said server, and further comprising converting a mail address of a transmitter in said e-mail received from said user, into said interim mail address.
13. (Original) The method as set forth in claim 12, further comprising the step of, (e) when a mail address of a transmitter of the received e-mail is not identical with a mail address of said mail-receiver recorded in said mail-address recording table, or when said interim mail address is judged invalid, rejecting transmission of the received e-mail to said user.

Appl. No. 10/722,988

Proposed Claim Amendments

14. (Original) The method as set forth in claim 12, wherein said request is made when said server receives an e-mail from said user, and further comprising converting a mail address of a transmitter in said e-mail received from said user, into said interim mail address.

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Original) The method as set forth in claim 12, further comprising judging said interim mail address invalid when said user instructs invalidation of said interim mail address, even if said interim mail address is judged valid in said step (c).

17. (Previously presented) The method as set forth in claim 12, wherein said expiration date is varied by said user.

18-22. Cancelled.

23. (Currently amended) A method of issuing a mail address to a user who makes e-mail communication with a mail-receiver through a server, comprising:

(a) issuing an interim mail address in a terminal of said user;

(b) transmitting a mail address of said user, a mail address of said mail-receiver, said interim mail address, and a maximum number by which said user is allowed to receive e-mails addressed to said interim mail address, to a mail-address recording table stored in said server;

(c) when an e-mail addressed to said interim mail address is received at said server, if the number of receiving e-mails addressed to said interim mail address is smaller than said maximum number, judging said interim mail address of the received e-mail valid; and

(d) when a mail address of a transmitter of the received e-mail is identical with a mail address of said mail-receiver recorded in said mail-address recording table and further when said interim mail address is judged valid, reading a mail address of said user out of said mail-address recording table, and converting said interim mail address to said mail address of said user,

wherein said request is made when an e-mail addressed to a mail-receiver not recorded in a user's telephone directory stored in said terminal is made in said terminal, and further

Appl. No. 10/722,988

Proposed Claim Amendments

comprising converting a mail address of a transmitter in said e-mail received from said user, into said interim mail address.

24. (Original) The method as set forth in claim 23, further comprising the step of, (e) when a mail address of a transmitter of the received e-mail is not identical with a mail address of said mail-receiver recorded in said mail-address recording table, or when said interim mail address is judged invalid, rejecting transmission of the received e-mail to said user.

25. (Cancelled)

26. (Original) The method as set forth in claim 23, wherein said request is made when said user selects issuance of said interim mail address for transmitting an e-mail made in said terminal, and further comprising converting a mail address of a transmitter in said e-mail received from said user, into said interim mail address.

27. (Original) The method as set forth in claim 23, further comprising judging said interim mail address invalid when said user instructs invalidation of said interim mail address, even if said interim mail address is judged valid in said step (c).

28. (Previously presented) The method as set forth in claim 23, wherein said maximum number is varied by said user.

29. (Currently amended) A method of issuing a mail address to a user who makes e-mail communication with a mail-receiver through a server, comprising:

(a) issuing an interim mail address in a terminal of said user;

(b) transmitting a mail address of said user, a mail address of said mail-receiver, said interim mail address, and an expiration date by which said user can transmit an e-mail having said interim mail address, to a mail-address recording table stored in said server;

(c) when an e-mail addressed to said interim mail address is received at said server, if it is within said expiration date, judging said interim mail address of the received e-mail valid; and

Appl. No. 10/722,988

Proposed Claim Amendments

(d) when a mail address of a transmitter of the received e-mail is identical with a mail address of said mail-receiver recorded in said mail-address recording table and further when said interim mail address is judged valid, reading a mail address of said user out of said mail-address recording table, and converting said interim mail address to said mail address of said user,

wherein said request is made when an e-mail addressed to a mail-receiver not recorded in a user's telephone directory stored in said terminal is made in said terminal, and further comprising converting a mail address of a transmitter in said e-mail received from said user, into said interim mail address.

30. (Original) The method as set forth in claim 29, further comprising the step of, (e) when a mail address of a transmitter of the received e-mail is not identical with a mail address of said mail-receiver recorded in said mail-address recording table, or when said interim mail address is judged invalid, rejecting transmission of the received e-mail to said user.

31. (Cancelled)

32. (Original) The method as set forth in claim 29, wherein said request is made when said user selects issuance of said interim mail address for transmitting an e-mail made in said terminal, and further comprising converting a mail address of a transmitter in said e-mail received from said user, into said interim mail address.

33. (Original) The method as set forth in claim 29, further comprising judging said interim mail address invalid when said user instructs invalidation of said interim mail address, even if said interim mail address is judged valid in said step (c).

34. (Previously presented) The method as set forth in claim 29, wherein said expiration date is varied by said user.

35-39. Cancelled.

Appl. No. 10/722,988

Proposed Claim Amendments

40. (Currently amended) A system for issuing a mail address to a user, comprising a terminal through which said user makes e-mail communication with a mail-receiver, and a server through which said user transmits an e-mail to said mail-receiver,

said server including:

(a) a first device which, on receipt of a request from said user to issue an interim mail address, issues an interim mail address to said user;

(b) a second device which records a mail address of said user, a mail address of said mail-receiver, said interim mail address, and a maximum number by which said user is allowed to receive e-mails addressed to said interim mail address, into a mail-address recording table in a set;

(c) a third device which, when an e-mail addressed to said interim mail address is received at said server, if the number of receiving e-mails addressed to said interim mail address is smaller than said maximum number, judges said interim mail address of the received e-mail valid; and

(d) a sixth device which, when a mail address of a transmitter of the received e-mail is identical with a mail address of said mail-receiver recorded in said mail-address recording table and further when said interim mail address is judged valid, reads a mail address of said user out of said mail-address recording table, and converts said interim mail address to said mail address of said user,

wherein said request is made when said first device receives an e-mail from said user which e-mail is addressed to a mail-receiver not recorded in a user's telephone directory stored in said server, and said server further includes a fifth device which converts a mail address of a transmitter in said e-mail received from said user, into said interim mail address.

41. (Original) The system as set forth in claim 40, wherein said server further includes (e) a seventh system which, when a mail address of a transmitter of the received e-mail is not identical with a mail address of said mail-receiver recorded in said mail-address recording table, or when said interim mail address is judged invalid, rejects transmission of the received e-mail to said user.

Appl. No. 10/722,988

Proposed Claim Amendments

42. (Original) The system as set forth in claim 40, wherein said request is made when said first device receives an e-mail from said user, and said server further includes a fifth device which converts a mail address of a transmitter in said e-mail received from said user, into said interim mail address.

43. (Cancelled)

44. (Original) The system as set forth in claim 40, wherein said third device judges said interim mail address invalid when said user instructs invalidation of said interim mail address, even if said interim mail address is judged valid, based on said mail-address recording table.

45. (Previously presented) The system as set forth in claim 40, wherein said maximum number is varied by said user.

46. (Currently amended) A system for issuing a mail address to a user, comprising a terminal through which said user makes e-mail communication with a mail-receiver, and a server through which said user transmits an e-mail to said mail-receiver,

said server including:

(a) a first device which, on receipt of a request from said user to issue an interim mail address, issues an interim mail address to said user;

(b) a second device which records a mail address of said user, a mail address of said mail-receiver, said interim mail address, and an expiration date by which said user can transmit an e-mail having said interim mail address, into a mail-address recording table in a set;

(c) a third device which, when an e-mail addressed to said interim mail address is received at said server, if it is within said expiration date, judges said interim mail address of the received e-mail valid; and

(d) a sixth device which, when a mail address of a transmitter of the received e-mail is identical with a mail address of said mail-receiver recorded in said mail-address recording table and further when said interim mail address is judged valid, reads a mail address of said user out of said mail-address recording table, and converts said interim mail address to said mail address of said user,

Appl. No. 10/722,988

Proposed Claim Amendments

wherein said request is made when said first device receives an e-mail from said user which e-mail is addressed to a mail-receiver not recorded in a user's telephone directory stored in said server, and said server further includes a fifth device which converts a mail address of a transmitter in said e-mail received from said user, into said interim mail address.

47. (Original) The system as set forth in claim 46, wherein said server further includes (e) a seventh device which, when a mail address of a transmitter of the received e-mail is not identical with a mail address of said mail-receiver recorded in said mail-address recording table, or when said interim mail address is judged invalid, rejects transmission of the received e-mail to said user.

48. (Original) The system as set forth in claim 46, wherein said request is made when said first device receives an e-mail from said user, and said server further includes a fifth device which converts a mail address of a transmitter in said e-mail received from said user, into said interim mail address.

49. (Cancelled)

50. (Original) The system as set forth in claim 46, wherein said third device judges said interim mail address invalid when said user instructs invalidation of said interim mail address, even if said interim mail address is judged valid, based on said mail-address recording table.

51. (Previously presented) The system as set forth in claim 46, wherein said expiration date is varied by said user.

52-56. Cancelled.

57. (Currently amended) A system for issuing a mail address to a user, comprising a terminal through which said user makes e-mail communication with a mail-receiver, and a server through which said user transmits an e-mail to said mail-receiver,
said terminal including:

Appl. No. 10/722,988

Proposed Claim Amendments

(a) a first device which issues an interim mail address in a terminal of said user; and
(b) a second device which transmits a mail address of said user, a mail address of said mail-receiver, said interim mail address, and a maximum number by which said user is allowed to receive e-mails addressed to said interim mail address, to a mail-address recording table stored in said server,

said server including:

(c) a third device which, when an e-mail addressed to said interim mail address is received at said server, if the number of receiving e-mails addressed to said interim mail address is smaller than said maximum number, judges said interim mail address of the received e-mail valid; and

(d) a sixth device which, when a mail address of a transmitter of the received e-mail is identical with a mail address of said mail-receiver recorded in said mail-address recording table and further when said interim mail address is judged valid, reads a mail address of said user out of said mail-address recording table, and converts said interim mail address to said mail address of said user,

wherein said first device judges that a request is made when an e-mail addressed to a mail-receiver not recorded in a user's telephone directory stored in said terminal is made in said terminal, and said terminal further includes a fifth device which converts a mail address of a transmitter in said e-mail received from said user, into said interim mail address.

58. (Original) The system as set forth in claim 57, further comprising (e) a seventh device which, when a mail address of a transmitter of the received e-mail is not identical with a mail address of said mail-receiver recorded in said mail-address recording table, or when said interim mail address is judged invalid, rejects transmission of the received e-mail to said user.

59. (Cancelled)

60. (Original) The system as set forth in claim 57, wherein said first device judges that said request is made when said user selects issuance of said interim mail address for transmitting an e-mail made in said terminal, and said terminal further includes a fifth device which converts a

Appl. No. 10/722,988

Proposed Claim Amendments

mail address of a transmitter in said e-mail received from said user, into said interim mail address.

61. (Original) The system as set forth in claim 57, wherein said third device judges said interim mail address invalid when said user instructs invalidation of said interim mail address, even if said interim mail address is judged valid, based on said mail-address recording table.

62. (Previously presented) The system as set forth in claim 57, wherein said maximum number is varied by said user.

63. (Currently amended) A system for issuing a mail address to a user, comprising a terminal through which said user makes e-mail communication with a mail-receiver, and a server through which said user transmits an e-mail to said mail-receiver,

said terminal including:

(a) a first device which issues an interim mail address in a terminal of said user; and

(b) a second device which transmits a mail address of said user, a mail address of said mail-receiver, said interim mail address, and an expiration date by which said user can transmit an e-mail having said interim mail address, to a mail-address recording table stored in said server,

said server including:

(c) a third device which, when an e-mail addressed to said interim mail address is received at said server, if it is within said expiration date, judges said interim mail address of the received e-mail valid; and

(d) a sixth device which, when a mail address of a transmitter of the received e-mail is identical with a mail address of said mail-receiver recorded in said mail-address recording table and further when said interim mail address is judged valid, reads a mail address of said user out of said mail-address recording table, and converts said interim mail address to said mail address of said user,

wherein said first device judges that a request is made when an e-mail addressed to a mail-receiver not recorded in a user's telephone directory stored in said terminal is made in said

Appl. No. 10/722,988

Proposed Claim Amendments

terminal, and said terminal further includes a fifth device which converts a mail address of a transmitter in said e-mail received from said user, into said interim mail address.

64. (Original) The system as set forth in claim 63, further comprising (e) a seventh device which, when a mail address of a transmitter of the received e-mail is not identical with a mail address of said mail-receiver recorded in said mail-address recording table, or when said interim mail address is judged invalid, rejects transmission of the received e-mail to said user.

65. (Cancelled)

66. (Original) The system as set forth in claim 63, wherein said first device judges that said request is made when said user selects issuance of said interim mail address for transmitting an e-mail made in said terminal, and said terminal further includes a fifth device which converts a mail address of a transmitter in said e-mail received from said user, into said interim mail address.

67. (Original) The system as set forth in claim 63, wherein said third device judges said interim mail address invalid when said user instructs invalidation of said interim mail address, even if said interim mail address is judged valid, based on said mail-address recording table.

68. (Previously presented) The system as set forth in claim 63, wherein said expiration date is varied by said user.

69-73. Cancelled.

74. (Currently amended) A server through which e-mails are transmitted, comprising:

(a) a first device which, on receipt of a request from said user to issue an interim mail address, issues an interim mail address to said user;

(b) a second device which records a mail address of said user, a mail address of said mail-receiver, said interim mail address, and a maximum number by which said user is allowed to

Appl. No. 10/722,988

Proposed Claim Amendments

receive e-mails addressed to said interim mail address, into a mail-address recording table in a set;

(c) a third device which, when an e-mail addressed to said interim mail address is received at said server, if the number of receiving e-mails addressed to said interim mail address is smaller than said maximum number, judges said interim mail address of the received e-mail valid;

(d) a ninth device which, when said interim mail address is judged valid, reads a mail address of said user out of said mail-address recording table; and

(e) a tenth device which converts said interim mail address to said mail address of said user,

wherein said first device judges that aid request is made when said first device receives an e-mail from said user which e-mail is addressed to a mail-receiver not recorded in a user's telephone directory stored in said server, and further including a fifth device which converts a mail address of a transmitter in said e-mail received from said user, into said interim mail address.

75. (Original) The server as set forth in claim 74, wherein said first device judges that said request is made when said first device receives an e-mail from said user, and further including a fifth device which converts a mail address of a transmitter in said e-mail received from said user, into said interim mail address.

76. (Cancelled)

77. (Original) The server as set forth in claim 74, wherein said third device judges said interim mail address invalid when said user instructs invalidation of said interim mail address, even if said interim mail address is judged valid, based on said mail-address recording table.

78. (Previously presented) The server as set forth in claim 74, wherein said maximum number is varied by said user.

79. (Currently amended) A server through which e-mails are transmitted, comprising:

Appl. No. 10/722,988

Proposed Claim Amendments

(a) a first device which, on receipt of a request from said user to issue an interim mail address, issues an interim mail address to said user;

(b) a second device which records a mail address of said user, a mail address of said mail-receiver, said interim mail address, and a maximum number by which said user is allowed to receive e-mails addressed to said interim mail address, into a mail-address recording table in a set;

(c) a third device which, when an e-mail addressed to said interim mail address is received at said server, if the number of receiving e-mails addressed to said interim mail address is smaller than said maximum number, judges said interim mail address of the received e-mail valid;

(d) a ninth device which, when said interim mail address is judged valid, reads a mail address of said user out of said mail-address recording table; and

(e) a tenth device which converts said interim mail address to said mail address of said user,

wherein said first device judges that said request is made when said first device receives an e-mail from said user which e-mail is addressed to a mail-receiver not recorded in a user's telephone directory stored in said server, and further including a fifth device which converts a mail address of a transmitter in said e-mail received from said user, into said interim mail address.

80. (Original) The server as set forth in claim 79, wherein said first device judges that said request is made when said first device receives an e-mail from said user, and further including a fifth device which converts a mail address of a transmitter in said e-mail received from said user, into said interim mail address.

81. (Cancelled)

82. (Original) The server as set forth in claim 79, wherein said third device judges said interim mail address invalid when said user instructs invalidation of said interim mail address, even if said interim mail address is judged valid, based on said mail-address recording table.

Appl. No. 10/722,988

Proposed Claim Amendments

83. (Previously presented) The server as set forth in claim 79, wherein said expiration date is varied by said user.

84-86. Cancelled.

87. (Currently amended) A server through which e-mails are transmitted, comprising:

(a) a first device which, on receipt of a request from a user to issue an interim mail address, issues an interim mail address to said user;

~~(a)~~ (b) a second device which receives a mail address of ~~[[a]]~~ said user, ~~[[an]]~~ said interim mail address issued in a terminal of said user, a mail address of a mail-receiver, and a maximum number by which said user is allowed to receive e-mails addressed to said interim mail address, from said terminal, and stores them in a mail-address recording table;

~~(b)~~ (c) a third device which, when an e-mail addressed to said interim mail address is received at said server, if the number of receiving e-mails addressed to said interim mail address is smaller than said maximum number, judges said interim mail address of the received e-mail valid; and

~~(c)~~ (d) a sixth device which, when a mail address of a transmitter of the received e-mail is identical with a mail address of said mail-receiver recorded in said mail-address recording table and further when said interim mail address is judged valid, reads a mail address of said user out of said mail-address recording table, and converts said interim mail address to said mail address of said user,

wherein said first device judges that said request is made when said first device receives an e-mail from said user which e-mail is addressed to a mail-receiver not recorded in a user's telephone directory stored in said server, and further including a fifth device which converts a mail address of a transmitter in said e-mail received from said user, into said interim mail address.

88. (Original) The server as set forth in claim 87, further comprising a seventh device which, when a mail address of a transmitter of the received e-mail is not identical with a mail address of said mail-receiver recorded in said mail-address recording table, or when said interim mail address is judged invalid, rejects transmission of the received e-mail to said user.

Appl. No. 10/722,988

Proposed Claim Amendments

89. (Original) The server as set forth in claim 87, wherein said third device judges said interim mail address invalid when said user instructs invalidation of said interim mail address, even if said interim mail address is judged valid, based on said mail-address recording table.

90. (Previously presented) The server as set forth in claim 87, wherein said maximum number is varied by said user.

91. (Currently amended) A server through which e-mails are transmitted, comprising:

(a) a first device which, on receipt of a request from a user to issue an interim mail address, issues an interim mail address to said user;

(b) a second device which receives a mail address of [[a]] said user, [[aa]] said interim mail address issued in a terminal of said user, a mail address of a mail-receiver, and an expiration date by which said user can transmit an e-mail having said interim mail address, from said terminal, and stores them in a mail-address recording table;

(c) a third device which, when an e-mail addressed to said interim mail address is received at said server, if it is within said expiration date, judges said interim mail address of the received e-mail valid; and

(d) a sixth device which, when a mail address of a transmitter of the received e-mail is identical with a mail address of said mail-receiver recorded in said mail-address recording table and further when said interim mail address is judged valid, reads a mail address of said user out of said mail-address recording table, and converts said interim mail address to said mail address of said user,

wherein said first device judges that said request is made when said first device receives an e-mail from said user which e-mail is addressed to a mail-receiver not recorded in a user's telephone directory stored in said server, and further including a fifth device which converts a mail address of a transmitter in said e-mail received from said user, into said interim mail address.

92. (Original) The server as set forth in claim 91, further comprising a seventh device which, when a mail address of a transmitter of the received e-mail is not identical with a mail address of

Appl. No. 10/722,988

Proposed Claim Amendments

said mail-receiver recorded in said mail-address recording table, or when said interim mail address is judged invalid, rejects transmission of the received e-mail to said user.

93. (Original) The server as set forth in claim 91, wherein said third device judges said interim mail address invalid when said user instructs invalidation of said interim mail address, even if said interim mail address is judged valid, based on said mail-address recording table.

94. (Previously presented) The server as set forth in claim 91, wherein said expiration date is varied by said user.

95-97. Cancelled.

98. (Currently amended) A computer-readable storage medium storing therein a program for causing a computer to carry out a method of issuing a mail address to a user who makes e-mail communication with a mail-receiver through a server, wherein steps executed by said computer in accordance with said program include:

(a) on receipt of a request from said user to issue an interim mail address, issuing an interim mail address to said user from said server;

(b) recording a mail address of said user, a mail address of said mail-receiver, said interim mail address, and a maximum number by which said user is allowed to receive e-mails addressed to said interim mail address, into a mail-address recording table in a set;

(c) when an e-mail addressed to said interim mail address is received at said server, if the number of receiving e-mails addressed to said interim mail address is smaller than said maximum number, judging said interim mail address of the received e-mail valid; ~~[[and]]~~

(d) when a mail address of a transmitter of the received e-mail is identical with a mail address of said mail-receiver recorded in said mail-address recording table and further when said interim mail address is judged valid, reading a mail address of said user out of said mail-address recording table, and converting said interim mail address to said mail address of said user; and

(e) converting a mail address of a transmitter in said e-mail received from said user, into said interim mail address.

Appl. No. 10/722,988

Proposed Claim Amendments

99. (Original) The program as set forth in claim 98, wherein said steps further include, when a mail address of a transmitter of the received e-mail is not identical with a mail address of said mail-receiver recorded in said mail-address recording table, or when said interim mail address is judged invalid, rejecting transmission of the received e-mail to said user.

100. (Cancelled)

101. (Original) The program as set forth in claim 98, wherein said steps further include judging said interim mail address invalid when said user instructs invalidation of said interim mail address, even if said interim mail address is judged valid in said step (c).

102. (Currently amended) A computer-readable storage medium storing therein a program for causing a computer to carry out a method of issuing a mail address to a user who makes e-mail communication with a mail-receiver through a server, wherein steps executed by said computer in accordance with said program include:

(a) on receipt of a request from said user to issue an interim mail address, issuing an interim mail address to said user from said server;

(b) recording a mail address of said user, a mail address of said mail-receiver, said interim mail address, and an expiration date by which said user can transmit an e-mail having said interim mail address, into a mail-address recording table in a set;

(c) when an e-mail addressed to said interim mail address is received at said server, if it is within said expiration date, judging said interim mail address of the received e-mail valid;

[[and]]

(d) when a mail address of a transmitter of the received e-mail is identical with a mail address of said mail-receiver recorded in said mail-address recording table and further when said interim mail address is judged valid, reading a mail address of said user out of said mail-address recording table, and converting said interim mail address to said mail address of said user; and

(e) converting a mail address of a transmitter in said e-mail received from said user, into said interim mail address.

Appl. No. 10/722,988

Proposed Claim Amendments

103. (Original) The program as set forth in claim 102, wherein said steps further include, when a mail address of a transmitter of the received e-mail is not identical with a mail address of said mail-receiver recorded in said mail-address recording table, or when said interim mail address is judged invalid, rejecting transmission of the received e-mail to said user.

104. (Cancelled)

105. (Original) The program as set forth in claim 102, wherein said steps further include judging said interim mail address invalid when said user instructs invalidation of said interim mail address, even if said interim mail address is judged valid in said step (c).

106-108. Cancelled.

109. (Currently amended) A computer-readable storage medium storing therein a program for causing a computer to carry out a method of issuing a mail address to a user who makes e-mail communication with a mail-receiver through a server, wherein steps executed by said computer in accordance with said program include:

(a) issuing an interim mail address in a terminal of said user;

(b) transmitting a mail address of said user, a mail address of said mail-receiver, said interim mail address, and a maximum number by which said user is allowed to receive e-mails addressed to said interim mail address, to a mail-address recording table stored in said server;

(c) when an e-mail addressed to said interim mail address is received at said server, if the number of receiving e-mails addressed to said interim mail address is smaller than said maximum number, judging said interim mail address of the received e-mail valid; [[and]]

(d) when a mail address of a transmitter of the received e-mail is identical with a mail address of said mail-receiver recorded in said mail-address recording table and further when said interim mail address is judged valid, reading a mail address of said user out of said mail-address recording table, and converting said interim mail address to said mail address of said user; and

(e) converting a mail address of a transmitter in said e-mail received from said user, into said interim mail address.

Appl. No. 10/722,988

Proposed Claim Amendments

110. (Original) The program as set forth in claim 109, wherein said steps further include, when a mail address of a transmitter of the received e-mail is not identical with a mail address of said mail-receiver recorded in said mail-address recording table, or when said interim mail address is judged invalid, rejecting transmission of the received e-mail to said user.

111. (Cancelled)

112. (Original) The program as set forth in claim 109, wherein said steps further include judging said interim mail address invalid when said user instructs invalidation of said interim mail address, even if said interim mail address is judged valid in said step (c).

113. (Currently amended) A computer-readable storage medium storing therein a program for causing a computer to carry out a method of issuing a mail address to a user who makes e-mail communication with a mail-receiver through a server, wherein steps executed by said computer in accordance with said program include:

(a) issuing an interim mail address in a terminal of said user;

(b) transmitting a mail address of said user, a mail address of said mail-receiver, said interim mail address, and an expiration date by which said user can transmit an e-mail having said interim mail address, to a mail-address recording table stored in said server;

(c) when an e-mail addressed to said interim mail address is received at said server, if it is within said expiration date, judging said interim mail address of the received e-mail valid;

[[and]]

(d) when a mail address of a transmitter of the received e-mail is identical with a mail address of said mail-receiver recorded in said mail-address recording table and further when said interim mail address is judged valid, reading a mail address of said user out of said mail-address recording table, and converting said interim mail address to said mail address of said user; and

(e) converting a mail address of a transmitter in said e-mail received from said user, into said interim mail address.

114. (Original) The program as set forth in claim 113, wherein said steps further include, when a mail address of a transmitter of the received e-mail is not identical with a mail address of said

Appl. No. 10/722,988

Proposed Claim Amendments

mail-receiver recorded in said mail-address recording table, or when said interim mail address is judged invalid, rejecting transmission of the received e-mail to said user.

115. (Cancelled)

116. (Original) The program as set forth in claim 113, wherein said steps further include judging said interim mail address invalid when said user instructs invalidation of said interim mail address, even if said interim mail address is judged valid in said step (c).